

## Summary of Input Discussion

### 1B—ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

**What are the major issues facing families and children that can best be addressed by greater local coordination?**

Substance abuse	Health care: well childcare, prenatal immunization, preventive health	High school dropouts	Data collection and reporting
After school programs		Youth employment	Lack of standardized programs for youth
Teen pregnancy/education	Drug education—DARE, etc.	Local needs assessment	Parents disconnected from schools
Mentoring programs	Basic physical needs—food, shelter, safety, jobs	Parenting: Lack of comprehensive approach and support for families beginning with prenatal through adolescence	Child abuse—lack of coordinated information
More user friendly/family central systems	Character education	Inadequate support for minority families	School safety
Community prevention emphasis	Improve connections/reduce isolation	Violence/gangs	Juvenile crime
Respect for diverse populations	Poverty	Literacy	Dental care
Injury prevention	Safe and secure communities	Health care coverage	Sex education
Mental health	Lack of parental involvement	Recruitment of foster parents	Unhealthy communities
Access to healthcare	Access to quality/affordable daycare	Safe neighborhoods	Allocation of resources
Child abuse/neglect	Drug/alcohol abuse	Parent education	Inventory of local services
Domestic violence	Life skills education	Disabilities	Duplication of social services
Homelessness	Family communication	Juvenile justice system	No central/community clearinghouse of resources/services
Job training/employment	Public transportation	Hazardous school facilities	Discrimination
Transportation	Delinquency	Lack of awareness of services	Breakdown of family unit
Teen activities	Affordable housing	Duplication of services	Need greater attention to learner needs in schools
Early screening for disabilities	Livable wages		

- All issues must be addressed at both state and local levels. State role: policy development and resource allocation, data collection, and management. Local role: program implementation.
- Identify and coordinate local resources.
- Encourage communities to use ASSET model, gather data, assess needs and solve problems.
- Asset building ONLY on local level, local communities should define who is at the table locally so that every voice is heard
- and the voices come from different levels and sectors of the community.
- Utilize "Promise fellows" throughout Idaho.
- Engage local businesses and organizations to address poverty issues.
- Require high school graduation of every child.
- Encourage local families/communities to get involved; go beyond individual race, religion, and circumstances.

## What are the major issues facing families and children that can best be addressed by greater statewide coordination?

- Financial support.
- Policy development—add ones to support parents; remove or change policies which hinder parents from providing for their children.
- Model respect for diverse populations (ethnic, disability, religious, etc.).
- Resource development and allocation (\$, leadership).
- Vision for health and well being of Idaho children.
- Coordinate and standardize data collection.
- Quality childcare/childcare standards.
- Health insurance for children.
- Standardized preschool education.
- Resources for health care access for physical, mental and dental for everyone.
- Help put humanities/arts/music back in schools.
- Job opportunities.
- Facilities for education and after school programs.
- Public awareness education/campaigns for top issues.
- Drug and violence education.
- Deadbeat dads-parental abandonment.
- Affect of substance abuse on children's families.
- Memorandum of understanding with tribes.
- Lack of family-oriented business/workplaces.
- Teen pregnancy.
- Economic development for families/minimum wage issues.
- School readiness.
- Removing stigma of using programs for families.
- Identify what families need to be healthy and help them get it.
- Invest in prevention, affordable and quality childcare.
- Assist smaller employers to ensure employees have insurance.
- Common client directory for agencies.
- Integration of services; setting up infrastructure.
- Setting standards for early childhood education.
- Getting more jobs in the state will benefit all families and children.
- Support for parents—dissemination of best practices with technical assistance and information.
- Support literacy programs.
- Expansion of CHIPS—program to 200% level.
- Child support enforcement.
- Substance abuse treatment.
- Parenting information at hospitals.
- Violence and resolution conflict.
- How violence on TV affects violence in children.
- Child care licensing criteria.
- Early childhood learning.
- Foster care licensing.
- Prisons—how they affect family issues.
- Affordable housing.
- Links with successful Albertson's Foundation programs.
- Eliminate barriers to services under funding of substance abuse for uninsured families.
- Centrally located database.
- Immunization.
- Consistent training that has respect for different cultures and ages, and not just in Boise, but the whole state of Idaho.
- State agencies need to be resources not dictators; advocate for funding, and establish broad guidelines for state programs, BUT IMPLEMENTATION REMAINS LOCAL.
- Identify and coordinate available funding streams.
- Standardized services.
- Setting policy and coordinating for local providers
- Tax breaks at state level.
- Training and education that includes mandatory training for professionals involved with families and mandatory cross disciplinary training
- Awareness of differences in ALL Idaho communities.
- Special education services.
- Better coordination of infants and children's medical health service.
- Respite care availability especially for lower income people.
- Change ratios in daycare licensing laws.
- Immunization on a state level up to medical standards.
- Using childcare and schools in better way to screen children and locate "missed" children.
- Hazardous school buildings.
- Information and referral systems for teen pregnancy—juvenile crime.
- Violence in home and school.
- Early identification of children at risk.
- Shelters for homeless.

- Public transportation.
- State needs to step in when local resources are not adequate.
- State support/training—with implementation at the local level.
- Need to find treatment rather than incarceration.
- Universal criteria to access government programs, i.e., Medicaid CHIP, criteria is all different and confusing.
- Comprehensive, long-term plan for building families—where are we going?
- More resource equity between rural and urban parts of state.
- Clarify and push information regarding treatment programs, eligibility, standards, etc.
- Poverty, lack of education, injury prevention, substance abuse and treatment.
- Funding for treatment beds for adults (treatment, treatment, treatment), continuum/after care programs.
- Share best practices.
- License professionals who can work with families—i.e., marriage and family therapists cannot license in Idaho, act as an umbrella for agencies to feed into and disseminate information.
- Look at how funds are distributed in prevention versus correction.

**What are the top five priorities the Coordinating Council should take on in its first two years in order to address local and statewide issues?**

Substance abuse	Funding for programs for children/families	Parent education	Single agency to oversee families at risk/teen suicide/teen pregnancy
Children's mental health	Assess best practices in state/nation	Poverty	Home school monitoring
Child protection	Cultural sensitivity	Race	Assets—getting youth involved in communities/support early childhood development programs
Respect for cultural diversity	Teen pregnancy	Programs for kids	Sustaining—make sure the Council continues in an advisory capacity
Support for primary preventive broadbased youth programs	School readiness	Domestic violence	Inventory to avoid duplication
Economic development	Community based support	Better substance abuse programs	Provide communication link
Health care—access	Resource allocation	Consolidate funding streams	Family service coordination centers
Education	Videoconference to rural areas for health, education, medical consults, and counseling	Out of school programs	Injury prevention
Cultural and values education	Rural access to services	Promoting citizenship	Develop a state vision of “healthy communities” and then local level/identify gaps and problem solve to rectify them
Transportation	Getting information to families	Early intervention	Facilitate implementation of the search institute—40 Assets
Quality childcare (standards)	Assess what families need to be healthy	Domestic violence	Care/monitor and adjust use of tobacco and drug free funds
Move from treatment to prevention	Needs assessment	Barriers to services	Lobby legislature to become proactive with funding for intervention strategies for families and youth
Getting business/private sector/faith involved	Streamline communications between agencies	More child-oriented education	
Mental health services	Provide leadership to local communities focused on early intervention	Financial responsibility—who is getting what	
Use of Assets model	Literacy	Leadership to resolve legislative conflict	
Drug and alcohol counseling	Premarital counseling	Coordinate and provide a clearinghouse for services	
Deadbeat dads—parental abandonment	Housing	Economic stability within communities—job trainings	
Affect of substance abuse on children/families		State should invest in children—Where have they been, where are they going?	
Data collection—see where we are			